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June 27, 2008

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DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION
DOCKETS

Docket Management Facility
U.S. Department of Transportation
West Building, Ground Floor
Rm. W12-140,
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE.
Washington, D.C. 20590

Re: DOT DMS Docket No. 2008-0089

Average Fuel Economy Standards, Passenger Cars and Light Trucks; Model Years 2011-2015 : Notice of Proposed Rulemaking

I am the President of Sweeney Buick Pontiac GMC Truck located in Youngstown, Ohio. I sell and service cars and trucks under the Buick Pontiac and GMC Truck brand names. We have been in business since 1921 and employ over 125 area residents.

I am writing to provide my comments on NHTSA's proposed fuel economy standards for cars and trucks for the 2011 - 2015 model years. I have been selling and service cars and trucks for many years and know how important it is to my customers that they can buy the cars and trucks that meet their needs, whether it is to commute to work, carry families, operate a business, carry cargo or tow a trailer.

I am concerned that the rapid and large increases in fuel economy that the proposal will require in the near future will result in higher prices and limited availability of the cars and trucks my customers need and want. I know GM will do what it can to meet the fuel economy standards, but I request that you reconsider and revise downwards the rate of increase of the standards you propose, and make sure you consider the cost, availability and consumer acceptance of new technologies.

I understand everyone's concern over fuel economy. All stakeholders are now firmly on the same train: we all want more fuel efficient vehicles and advanced technology.

However, we need to accomplish these goals in a reasonable manner and with a reasonable timeframe. We can't overstress the manufacturers or the consumers that purchase new vehicles. If the affordability evaporates, our goals cannot be accomplished.

I fully support NHTSA's position that regulation of fuel economy is the responsibility of the federal government and states should not be allowed to regulate. We need one set of national standards and not a checkerboard of different state standards.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit comments.

Sincerely,

David H. Sweeney
President

Corporate Headquarters

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